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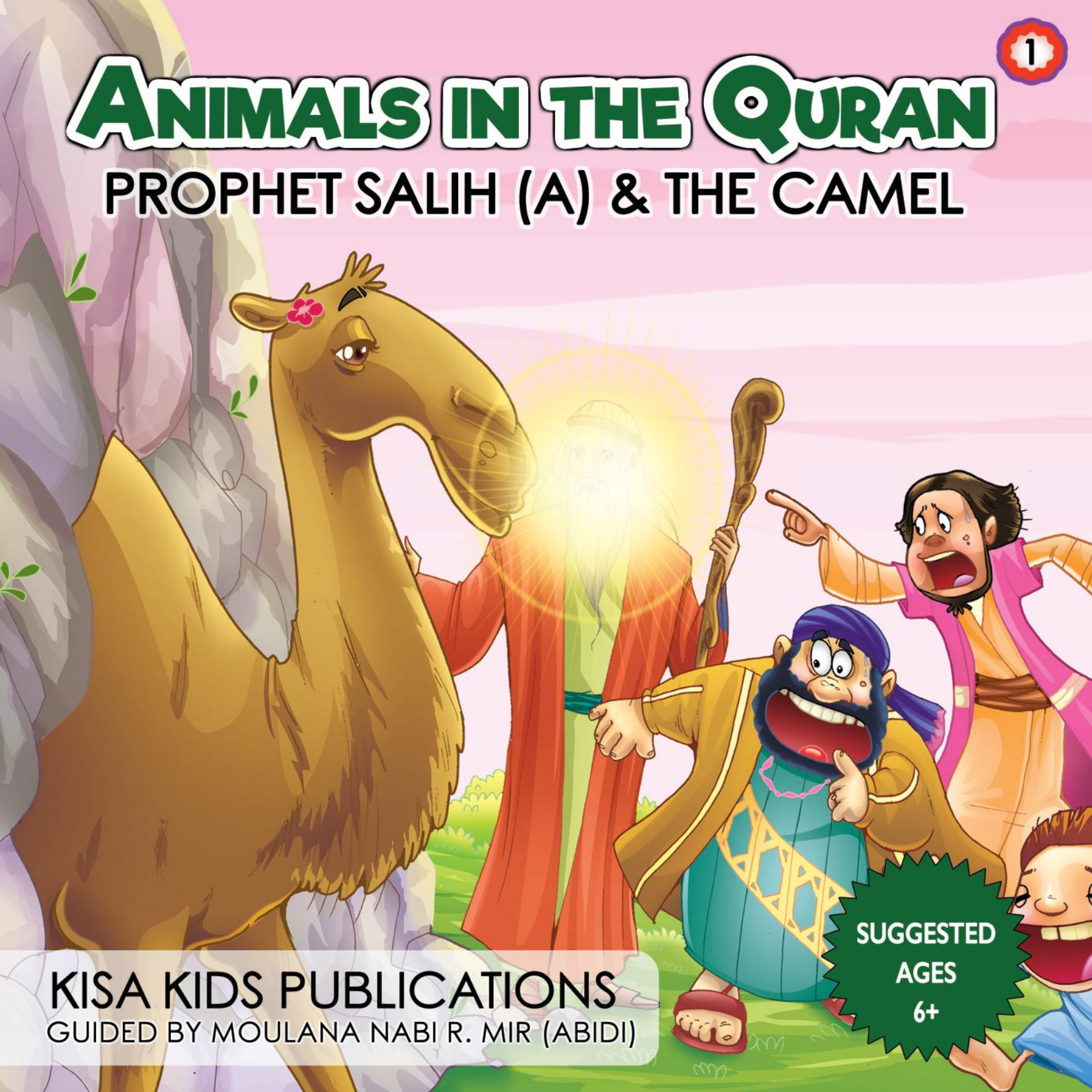
ANIMALS IN THE QURAN

PROPHET SALIH (A) & THE CAMEL



SUGGESTED AGES 6+

KISA KIDS PUBLICATIONS
GUIDED BY MOULANA NABI R. MIR (ABIDI)

Disclaimer: Religious texts have ***not*** been translated verbatim so as to meet the developmental and comprehension needs of children.

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to the beloved Imām of our time (ʿaj). May Allah (swt) hasten his reappearance and help us to become his true companions.

Original Author

Brother Alāʾ Jaʿfarī

Acknowledgements

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): On the Day of Resurrection, the ink of the scholars will be weighed up against the blood of the martyrs, and the ink of the scholars will be heavier than the blood of the martyrs.

Nahj al-Faṣāḥah, Saying #3222.

True reward lies with Allah, but we would like to sincerely thank the efforts of Shaykh Salim Yusufali, Sisters Sabika Mithani, Liliana Villalvazo, Sarah Ali, Amna Hussain, Zainab Mithani, Zahra Sabur, Sajeda Merchant, Fathema Abidi, Fatemeh Eslami, Kisae Nazar, Abeda Khimji, Zehra Abbas, Zainab Hussain, and Fatima Hussain. We would especially like to thank Nainawa Publications for their artwork and contributions
May Allah bless them in this world and the next.

Marḥūmīn Dedication

Please recite a Sūrah al-Fātiḥah for the marḥūmīn of the Talebi family

Preface

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): Nurture and raise your children in the best way. Raise them with the love of the Prophets and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa).

Literature is an influential form of media that often shapes the thoughts and views of an entire generation. Therefore, in order to establish an Islamic foundation for the future generations, there is a dire need for compelling Islamic literature. Over the past several years, this need has become increasingly prevalent throughout Islamic centers and schools everywhere. Due to the growing dissonance between parents, children, society, and the teachings of Islam and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa), this need has become even more pressing. Al-Kisa Foundation, along with its subsidiary, Kisa Kids Publications, was conceived in an effort to help bridge this gap with the guidance of ʿulamāʾ and the help of educators. We would like to make this a communal effort and platform. Therefore, we sincerely welcome constructive feedback and help in any capacity.

The goal of *Animals in the Quran* is to strengthen children's understanding of how Allah is All-Powerful and All-Wise, thus strengthening their tawakkul and reliance. We hope that you and your children enjoy these books and use them as a means to achieve this goal, inshāʾAllāh.

We pray to Allah to give us the strength and tawfīq to perform our duties and responsibilities.

With Duʾās,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

About the Board ʿĀlim

Moulana Nabi R. Mir (Abidi) is a scholar, an educator, a father, and an enthusiast for creating educational infrastructure and Islamic resources for the benefit of the global community. Always wanting to think outside the box by supporting the creation of innovative materials to engage young readers to pick up Islamic books, interact with Qurʾānic games, learn from the Steps to Perfection Curriculum and begin their life long journey of holistic education.

Being a dedicated student and graduate of Darse Khārij from Ḥawzah, Moulana Abidi knows the value of Islamic education. Also, growing up in India while now residing in the United States, he has had the honor to meet with various communities and community leaders, and values the importance of collaboration and working together to optimize potentials and to create open source platforms so information and resources are available and accessible to all.

* * *

You, dear reader, are now part of the Al-Kisa family. Share the word, and join the mission.

ANIMALS IN THE QURAN

1

PROPHET SALIH (A) & THE CAMEL

AL-KISA FOUNDATION
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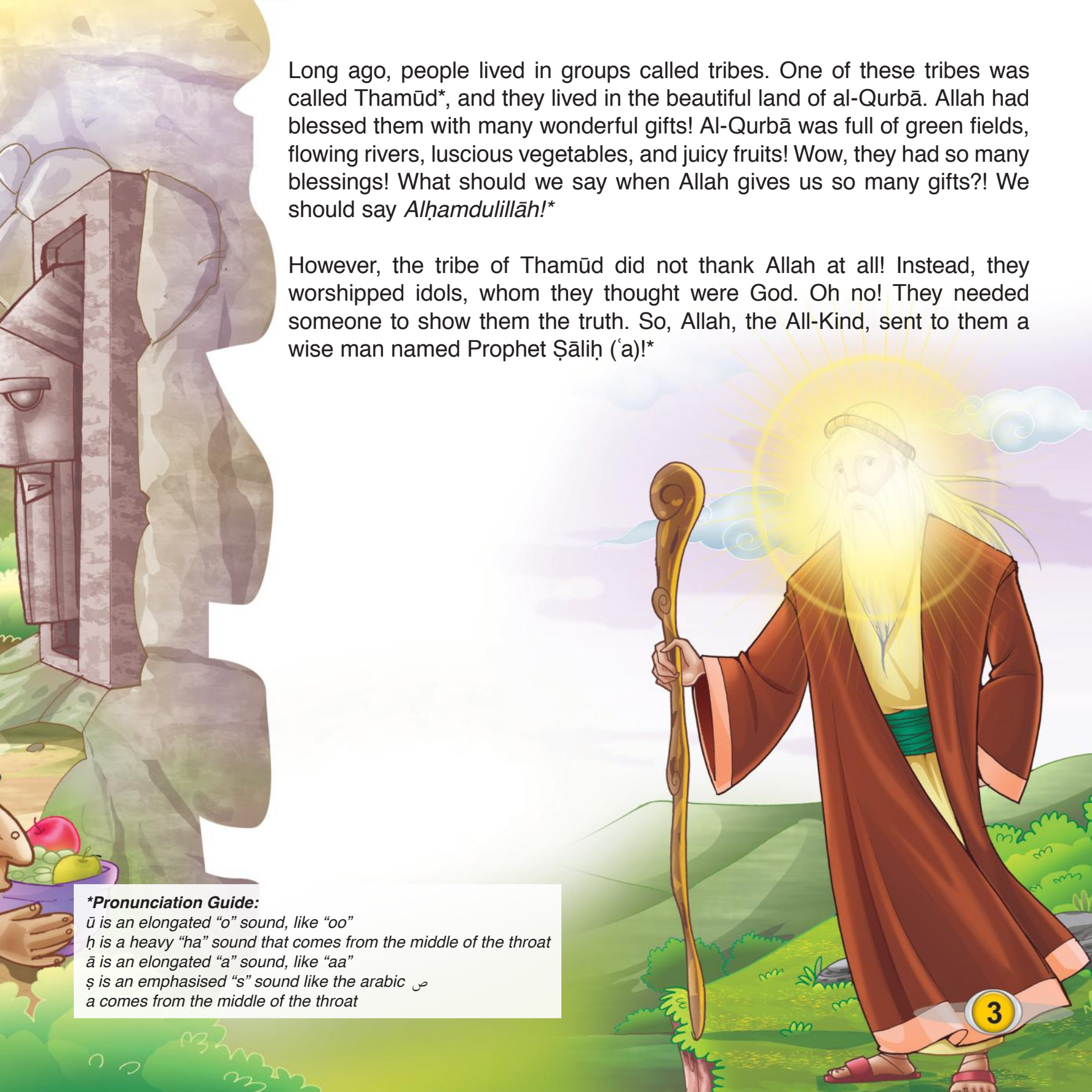
Long ago, people lived in groups called tribes. One of these tribes was called Thamūd*, and they lived in the beautiful land of al-Qurbā. Allah had blessed them with many wonderful gifts! Al-Qurbā was full of green fields, flowing rivers, luscious vegetables, and juicy fruits! Wow, they had so many blessings! What should we say when Allah gives us so many gifts?! We should say *Alḥamdulillāh!**

However, the tribe of Thamūd did not thank Allah at all! Instead, they worshipped idols, whom they thought were God. Oh no! They needed someone to show them the truth. So, Allah, the All-Kind, sent to them a wise man named Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa)!*



***Pronunciation Guide:**
ū is an elongated “o” sound, like “oo”
ḥ is a heavy “ha” sound that comes from the middle of the throat
ā is an elongated “a” sound, like “aa”
ṣ is an emphasised “s” sound like the arabic ص
a comes from the middle of the throat

Everyone loved Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) very much! He was kind, honest, and trustworthy. Whenever they needed help, they knew they could always go to Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa). Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) loved to help them, because this made Allah happy. He really wanted to guide his tribe and teach them about Allah. So, every day, he would climb on top of a large rock and call out, “O people! All these gifts are from Allah! Thank Allah and worship Him!”

Some people listened to Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) and believed in Allah. Others, however, refused to believe. They were too stubborn! They would even argue with the Prophet (ʿa)!

Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) didn’t give up, though. He decided to meet with the leaders of the tribe. He had a great idea that would help them see the truth! He said to them, “Let’s meet in the valley and pray. I will pray to Allah to grant any wish you want, and you pray to your idols to grant *me* a wish! If my wish comes true, then I will believe in your idols. But if your wish comes true, then you must believe in Allah!”

The leaders agreed to this idea. They thought they could prove once and for all that Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) was wrong about their idols!

The next day, the whole tribe gathered near a large rock in the valley. The leaders told Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa), “Go ahead! Ask our idols for anything you want!”

Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) made a wish and waited patiently, but nothing happened. After a few minutes, Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) said, “See, your idols did not grant my wish! Now, it’s your turn. Tell me your wish, and I will ask Allah to grant it.”

The tribal leaders looked at each other nervously. *What should we ask for?* they thought to themselves.

Finally, one leader pointed to the large rock and said, “O Ṣāliḥ! Ask your God to make a beautiful camel come out of this rock!”

“Yeah — a pregnant camel!” chimed in another leader.

“Yes, yes! With a 10-month-old calf in her stomach!” added another.

The first leader exclaimed, “Go ahead! If you can do this, we will believe that there is no god except Allah!”

The tribe members looked at each other smugly. There was *no way* Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) could make this happen! They watched as Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) raised his hands toward the sky and asked Allah to make their wish come true.

Crrrr-aaackk! The whole tribe watched in awe as the rock suddenly cracked open and a pregnant she-camel came out! Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) turned to the people and said, “O my tribe! This camel is a sign from Allah, the All-Powerful!”

The leaders of the tribe were shocked by this miracle! Still, many of them broke their promise and refused to believe in Allah.

Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) did not give up, however. Allah told him to give the people *another* chance to believe. So, Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) announced, “Allah has chosen a special day for the she-camel to drink from the river. On that day, no one else should drink from the river. In return, the camel will provide delicious milk for the entire tribe!”

The leaders became very angry when they heard this announcement! As long as the camel was there, it would remind them of Prophet Ṣāliḥ’s (ʿa) miracle. They refused to admit that such a miracle could only come from Allah. So, they decided to kill the camel!

Early the next morning, one evil man followed the poor camel and killed her when she was all by herself. Then, the leaders celebrated by distributing the meat to everyone in the tribe.

Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) was very upset by this evil deed. Allah told him that He would punish these people very soon. However, He wanted to give them one *final* chance. So, He told Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) to warn them. Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) called out to his tribe, “O my people! Allah has given you three days to ask for forgiveness or He will send down a punishment!”

Unfortunately, their hearts had become stubborn because of their sins, so they continued to ignore Allah's message. Instead, they made fun and joked, "Sure! If what you said is true, then let the punishment come!"

The next morning, the disbelievers woke up and were shocked to see that their faces had turned yellow! This was a sign of their upcoming punishment, but they chose to ignore it.

The following day, they woke up to find that their faces had turned red, but they *still* did not believe!

On the third day, their faces had become black, but they *still* refused to ask for forgiveness!

They even planned to kill Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa), but Allah's plan was more powerful. That night, black clouds gathered in the sky, and lightning struck each of the disbelievers. Everyone was destroyed except Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) and his followers. Allah protected them with His special kindness.

From this story, we see how kind and powerful Allah truly is – He gave the disbelievers not one, not two, but *three* chances to turn to Him! We also see that Allah is the best of planners, so we should always follow Him and His prophets!

Family Time

وَ إِلَىٰ ثَمُودَ أَخَاهُمْ صَالِحًا ۗ قَالَ يَا قَوْمِ اعْبُدُوا اللهَ مَا لَكُمْ مِنْ إِلَٰهٍ غَيْرُهُ ۖ قَدْ جَاءَتْكُمْ بَيِّنَةٌ مِنْ رَبِّكُمْ ۖ هَٰذِهِ نَاقَةُ اللهِ لَكُمْ آيَةً فَذَرُوهَا تَأْكُلْ فِي أَرْضِ اللهِ ۖ وَلَا تَمَسُّوهَا بِسُوءٍ فَيَأْخُذَكُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ

And [We sent] to Thamūd their brother Ṣāliḥ. He said, "O my people, worship Allah; there is no god except Him. There has come to you clear evidence from your Lord. This is the she-camel of Allah [sent] to you as a sign. So, leave her to eat within Allah's land and do not harm her, lest there seize you a painful punishment." (7:73)

Dear Parents/Guardians,

When reading and learning about stories from the Qurʾān, it is important for us to reflect upon the lessons they teach us. In order to help your children internalize the lessons from this story, discuss the following questions:

1. What was the silly wish the idol worshippers asked Prophet Ṣāliḥ (ʿa) to pray for?

2. Why did the leaders want to kill the beautiful camel?

3. What happened to the disbelievers?

4. What lesson can we learn from this story?

Glossary

(ṣ): Peace and blessings be upon Prophet Muḥammad and his family

(swt): All glory belongs to God, the Glorified and Exalted

(ʿa): Peace and blessings be upon him/her

(ʿaj): May God hasten his reappearance

Ahl al-Bayt: Divinely appointed family members of Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ)

al-Fātiḥah: The first *sūrah* that is commonly recited and sent as a gift of prayer for the deceased

Alḥamdulillāh: All praise is for God

Allah: The Arabic term for God, a culmination of all His holy names and titles

Duʿā: Supplication; a deep connection and communication between an individual and God

Imām: A divinely appointed leader, sometimes refers to a spiritual leader

Inshāʾ Allāh: God-willing

Marḥūmīn: Someone who has passed away

Qurʾān: The holy book of Muslims

Sūrah: A chapter of the Qurʾān

Tawakkul: Reliance and trust in God

Tawfīq: Divine blessings from God that give one the opportunity and ability to thrive towards success

ʿUlamāʾ: Scholars

Transliteration Chart

Arabic terms in this book have been transliterated according to the following guidelines*:

ء	a, i, or u (initial form)
ء	ʾ (medial or final form)
ا	a
ب	b
ت	t
ث	th
ج	j
ح	ḥ
خ	kh
د	d
ذ	dh
ر	r
ز	z
س	s
ش	sh
ص	ṣ
ض	ḍ
ط	ṭ
ظ	ẓ
ع	ʿ
غ	gh
ف	f
ق	q
ك	k
ل	l
م	m
ن	n
ه	h
و	w
ي	y

ـَ	a
ـِ	i
ـُ	u
ـّ	double letter
آ / ـَا / ىٰ	ā
ـِي	ī
ـُو	ū

*Please note that due to limitations, the transliteration is not 100% accurate in capturing tajwīd rules.

The tribe of Thamud had all the blessings they could dream of! But they didn't thank Allah for these blessings and instead denied His signs. They even challenged and planned to kill His Prophet. Unfortunately, they did not realize that Allah is the best of planners. *Prophet Salih (a) and the Camel* demonstrates why it is important for us to thank Allah for His blessings, follow His commands, and trust in His plan.

AL-KISA FOUNDATION
UNDER THE CLOAK OF GUIDANCE AND MERCY

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